*It is generally accepted that smoking causes the deaths of large numbers of people. In order to address this problem, governments should ban smoking in public places.*

*To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?*

Many people think that the best way to reduce deaths from smoking is to ban smoking in public places. 1 However, / In addition, it is not as simple as that. There are several reasons why I do not consider this approach to be suitable.

2 Alternatively, / Firstly, banning activities often increases their popularity by making them seem more exciting. 3 Furthermore, / In contrast, most smoking takes place in the privacy of people's homes and would 4 therefore / nevertheless not be affected by the ban. 5 Thirdly, / Similarly, a ban on smoking would make extra demands on the police.

6 Although / Despite the ideas behind banning smoking in public places are good, an alternative approach needs to be taken, in my opinion. Schools should lead the way in discussing the harmful effects of smoking not only on the smokers themselves but also on others around them. 7 In addition, / Consequently, parents

LIVEWORKSHEETS

need to support these efforts by encouraging their children to understand the negative aspects of smoking.

If we adopted these measures, I believe fewer people would take up smoking 8 as a result. / moreover. To some extent, these things are already happening. 9 And / Nevertheless, further efforts are needed.

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